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THE MANDATE ISLANDS OF JAPAN

With an Introduction

BY CARRIE G. AINSWORTH

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A JAPANESE COOLIE GIRL

The Lakeside Series of English Readings

OCEAN STORIES

Japan of Today

ITS PEOPLE ITS CUSTOMS
ITS RESOURCES
THE MANDATE ISLANDS OF JAPAN

With an Introduction

By
ms. CARRIE G. AINSWORTH

Chicago
AINSWORTH & COMPANY

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FOREWORD

In the preceding volume of *Ocean Stories*, the book, "A Trip to the Orient," describes a journey from Yokohama through the Inland Sea of Japan; and the Story ends at Manila. In this volume, more attention is given to the history of Japan, and its people.

The prominent position taken by Japan in the Disarmament Conference and the fact that Congress has considered recently various immigration and naturalization bills make this subject of especial interest at this time.

In 1900, 10,000 Japanese landed in California after being released from contract in Hawaii.

A "Gentlemen's Agreement" was voluntarily made by Japan in 1907, by which laborers were not allowed to come to the United States (with certain exceptions).

California in 1913 passed a law forbidding aliens, ineligible to citizenship, to own a lease for more than three years on any agricultural land in the state.

A referendum in 1920 strengthened these restrictions so that the same aliens can not now even lease land, hold it in trust for a child, or own stock in a land-holding corporation.

The Naturalization Act says that those eligible to citizenship shall be all free white persons and persons of African nativity or descent.

March 1922.

C. G. A.

"All travel has its advantages. If the traveler visits better countries, he may learn to improve his own; and if fortune carries him to worse, may learn to enjoy his own."

"The use of travel is to regulate imagination by reality, and instead of thinking how things may be, to see them as they are."—
JOHNSON.

INTRODUCTION

The facilities for travel, the constant and frequent intercourse by the palatial steamships that traverse the Pacific Ocean, and the necessity of our keeping in commercial touch with our possessions in the Orient make it of especial interest to consider something of the customs and manners of the people of Japan, who are among our leading customers and who buy so largely of our products.

The Japanese people are made up of four races: the Caucasian Race, the Semitic people, the Malay people, and the Tartar people. Of the original people of the Caucasian or white race, about 20,000 are still living in the North on the Island of Yezo. These are known as the Ai-nu; they are nearly white, with straight eyes and long beards and speak a language much like some European languages. When the Ai-nu women marry, they tattoo the space around the mouth so as to make it look much like a mustache. The Malay people come from the South and have still numerous relatives in Formosa and the Philippines. The fourth element is the Tartar race; or the people who came from Northern Asia, probably through

Korea, and crossed the Sea into Japan. These four races have now been blended together and form one Nation. The Northern Islands were not originally a real part of Japan until the Russians began to appear in the North.

A Japanese sailor made his way almost around the Northern end of the Island of Saghalin which Europeans did not know to be an Island. The Island of Formosa became Japanese Territory after the War with China in 1895 and Korea became a part of the Empire in 1910. The Empire ranges in latitude from 22 degrees to about 51 degrees north. The Southern part of Formosa is south of the Tropic of Cancer and because of such difference in latitude, the climate varies from Tropical in the South to cold in the North. The warm ocean current known as the Japan Current flows northward along the Coast. The Eastern extremity of Japan is longitude 156 degrees west which makes it within 900 miles of Alaska. Its Western extremity is longitude 119 east, bringing it quite close to China.

The Japanese were a very exclusive people and when the European people were driven out in 1620, the Hollanders were allowed to live at Nagasaki, on an Island just outside the City and to have a ship come once a year to exchange Dutch for Japanese products.

We quote from "A Salem Shipmaster and Merchant":

In 1802 while at Manila, thinking it might be two or three months before the season would allow me to return home, I planned a trip to Japan. I was to go in the "Active" with a small cargo of sugar, piece goods, etc. A gentleman from New York then at Manila, took great interest in this enterprise; which, by the way, was considered a very bold one, as the Japanese ports were closed against all foreigners, the Dutch alone excepted, and assisted in purchasing my cargo. My intention was to ship for Ningpo, but, arrived at Japan, I was to feign distress and put into Nagasaki for repairs. Once allowed to land, I hoped to be able to dispose of my cargo advantageously. I set sail and had been out about a week, when the monsoon changed and I was prevented from going on. A day or two more of favorable weather would have brought me to Nagasaki.

In "A Voyage in the Sunbeam" is found this interesting experience.

Saturday, February 17, 1877. At 3:45 a. m. the anchor was dropped near the lighthouse of Isaki and we waited until daylight before proceeding through the Straits of Shimonoseki.

About nine o'clock the wind freshened, and as soon as the anchorage near the town was reached, we anchored again near two men-of-war which had preceded us from Kobe but were now windbound, like ourselves.

We landed opposite a large tea-house, where we were immediately surrounded by a crowd of Jap-

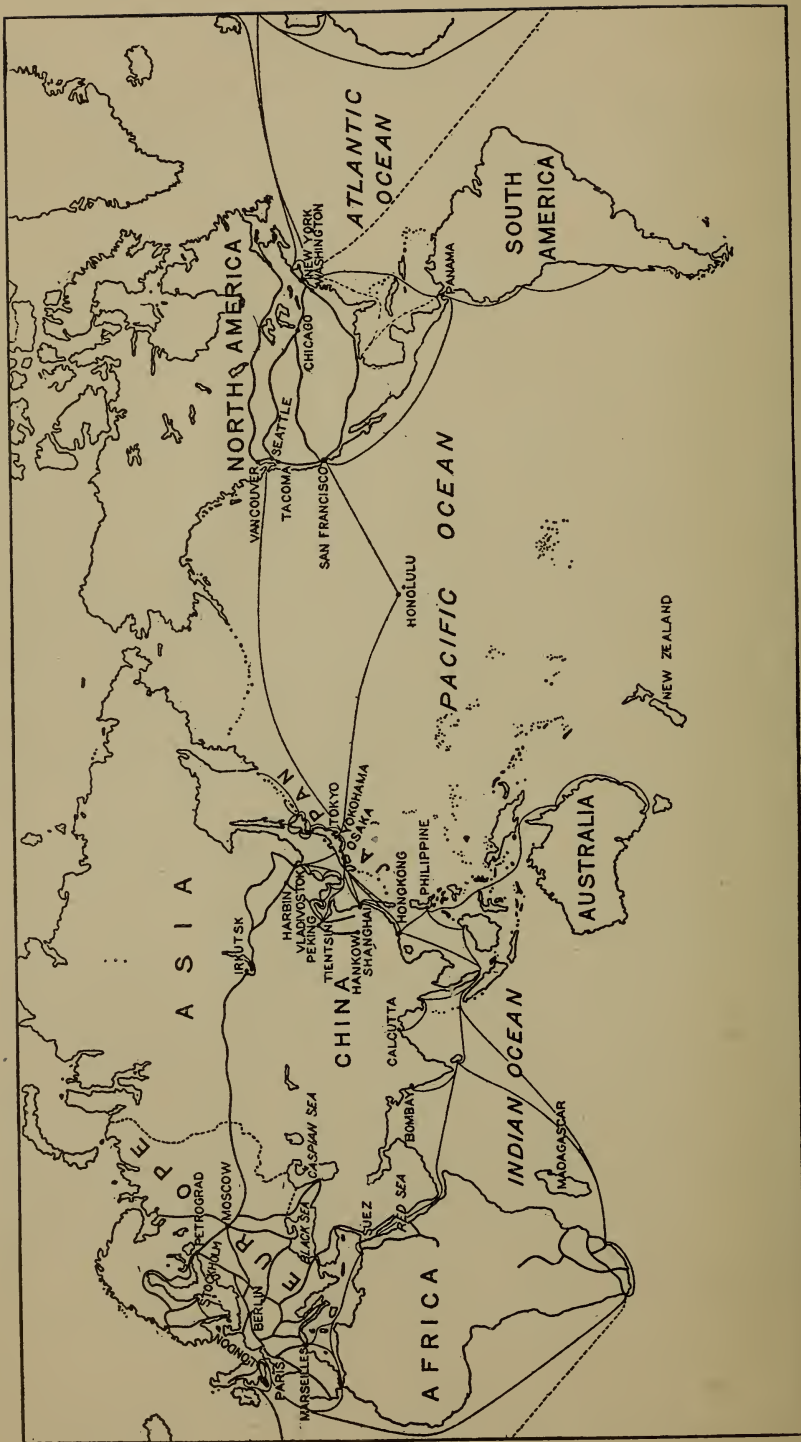
anese, who stared at us eagerly, and even touched us only through curiosity. They pursued us wherever we went, and when we entered at a house or shop, the whole crowd stopped, and if we retired to the back they surged all over the front premises and penetrated into the interior as far as they could. A most amusing scene took place at one of the houses where we went to order some provisions for the yacht. The proprietor suggested that they should retire at once, and an abrupt retreat took place, the difficulties of which were augmented by the fact that every one had left his wooden shoes outside, along the front of the house. The street was ankle deep in mud and half-melted snow, into which they did not like to venture in their stockings; but how the owners of two or three hundred pairs of clogs, almost exactly alike, ever found their own property again, I could not understand, though they managed to clear out very quickly.

We were the chief objects of attention, as they told us that no European lady or child had ever been at Shimono-seki before. It was not a treaty port, so no one was allowed to land, except from a Man-of-war without special permission, which was not often given; it is besides the key to the Inland Sea and the authorities were very jealous about any one seeing the forts. We waded through the mud and snow, always followed by the same crowd and stared at by all the inhabitants. They seemed very timid and inclined to run away if we turned around. Still their curiosity, especially respecting my seal-skin jacket and serge dress, was insatiable, and I felt myself constantly being gently stroked and touched. We returned to the yacht and while at

lunch, some officers came on board, to say that, this not being a treaty port, we could not purchase any provisions, except through them, and with special permission.

The first Englishman to live in Japan was named Adams, who came out as the Pilot of a Squadron of Dutch Merchant Ships and not being allowed to leave the country, he married a Japanese woman and taught shipbuilding on European models. In 1839 the Japanese gunners in Forts at Ku-ri-ha-ma fired on the U. S. Relief Ship Morrison which was bringing shipwrecked sailors to Japan and drove her away. Here is located Perry Park, with a striking monument, erected in July 1901 to characterize the fact, that this is the place where the American Squadron in 1853 under Commodore Perry visited Japan. The American Marines and Sailors landed and conferences were held in a pavilion to consider a letter written by President Fillmore asking the Japanese to be friendly and kind to our shipwrecked and needy sailors, and to enter into commercial relations between the United States and Japan.

Our relations with Japan began in the friendship under Commodore Perry, and we contributed thousands of teachers, missionaries and scientific men to aid in the progress of the Japanese people.



FROM AMERICA TO JAPAN

THE MANDATE ISLANDS OF JAPAN

These Islands are located between the Equator and the tenth parallel of Latitude North, and consist of the former German islands. The Pelew, Caroline, Mariana (with the exception of Guam) and the Marshall Islands, are included under the mandate. The islands in these groups are mainly of coral formation and are of small size, exceeding 800 in number. The commercial value of the islands is small; copra is the largest article of export. Anguar, one of the Pelew Islands, has deposits of high grade phosphates. The islands have considerable strategic value and, though they cannot by the terms of the mandate be fortified or used as naval bases, the islands will prove of great importance for commercial wireless stations and aviation bases.

After the peace settlement the United States questioned the control exercised by Japan over Yap in the Caroline Islands. Yap, situated 500 miles east of the Philippines, is an important cable station for Trans-Pacific lines from Shanghai (China), Menado (Dutch East Indies) and Guam, linking up the United States with the Far East and East Indies. The necessity

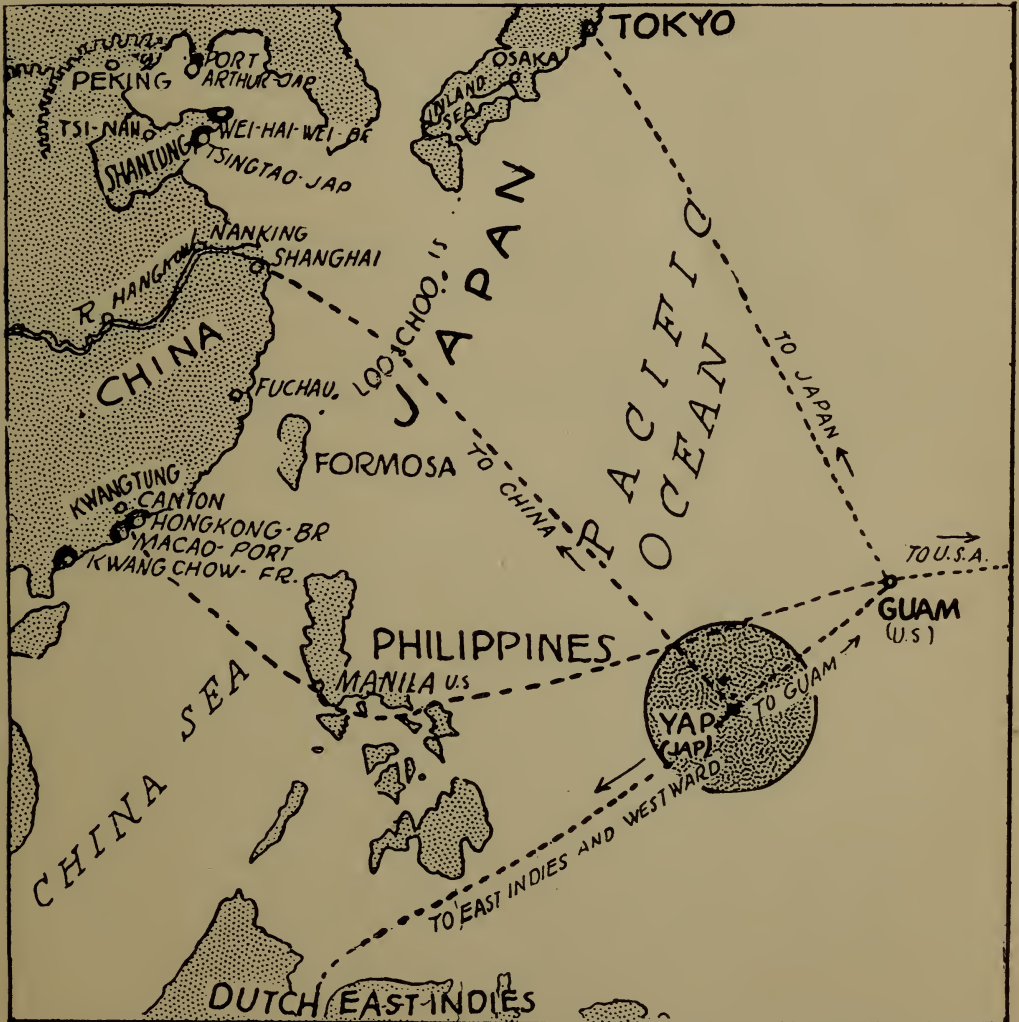
of cables and radio communications has assumed international importance; the recent controversy on cable control at Yap and other points has shown how vital the control of communications is to the welfare of nations.

By the acquisition of these islands the position of Japan as a Pacific power has been strengthened. The expansion of Japan in the Pacific is not relished by Australia and New Zealand. These nations have adopted the policy of making their countries an area for white settlement only. With the disappearance of Germany from the Pacific, the United States, China, Japan, and Great Britain with her colonies of Australia and New Zealand, are now the leading Pacific powers. France has possessions in the Pacific but she does not aspire to any political power in this area.

The Mandate Islands of Great Britain and Australia are to the South and lie along the Equator from 150 degrees of Longitude West of Greenwich to 140 degrees East.

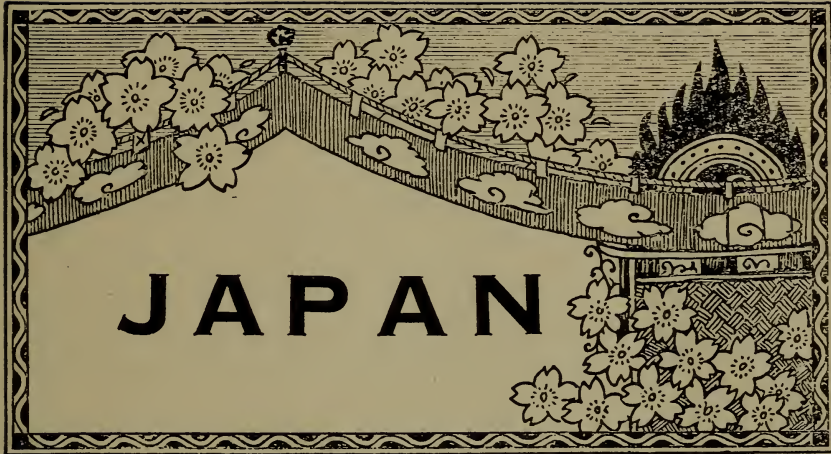
Here is the charm of waving palms; of the shining beaches with their windows of shingle, in which one gathers shells and coral; of the sea breaking on the reef; of the native huts glimpsed through the trees; of the white terns flying low and screaming; of tall herons wading in the shallow water at the edge of the sea; of the white clouds driven rapidly over the island

by the trade winds; of the fleet of outrigger canoes sailing out at dawn or silhouetted against the setting sun as they return.



By Courtesy of "Chicago Tribune."

THE ISLAND OF YAP.



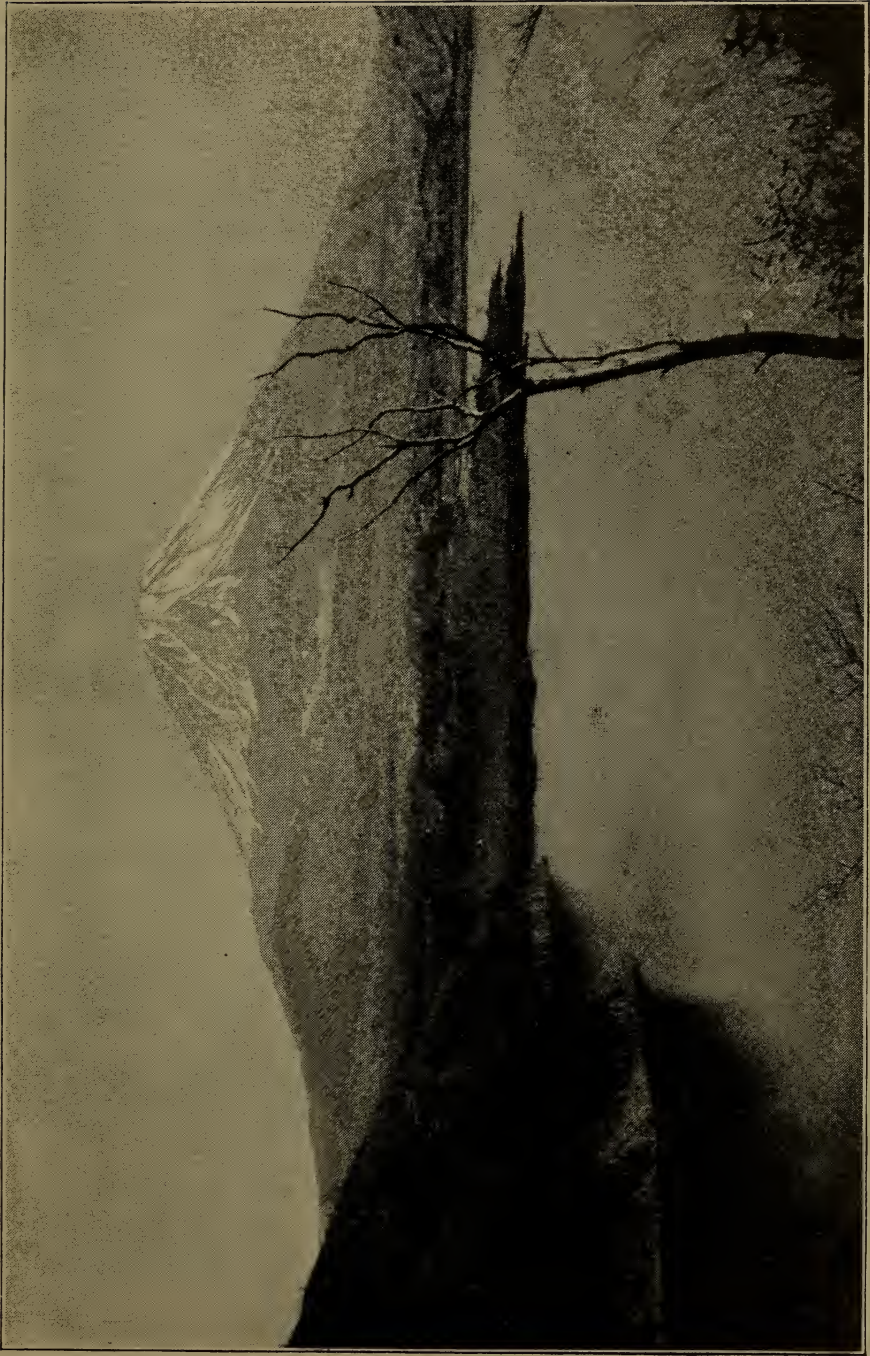
“THE PACIFIC IS A WIDE OCEAN BUT A NARROW
WORLD”

In a previous volume, “A Trip to the Orient,” was given a story of a voyage from San Francisco across the Pacific. While on this voyage, early in the morning, we were called on deck to see the burning Mountain. The wind was still blowing hard, but we were among the islands, and in comparatively smooth water. The full moon still rode high in the heavens, her light being reflected in rainbow hues from the spray and foam that drifted along the surface of the water. On every side were islands and rocks, among which the sea boiled and seethed, while the roaring breakers dashed

against the higher cliffs, casting great columns of spray into the air, and falling back in heavy rollers and surf.

Just before us rose the Island of Vries, with its cone-shaped volcano, 2,600 feet high, emitting volumes of smoke and flame. It was overhung by a cloud of white vapor, on the underside of which shone the lurid glare of the fires of the crater. Sometimes this cloud simply floated over the top of the mountain, from which it was quite detached; then when there would be a fresh eruption, and, after a few moments' quiet, great tongues of flame would shoot up and pierce through the overhanging cloud to the heavens above, while the molten lava rose like a fountain for a short distance, and then ran down the sides of the mountain.

It was wondrously beautiful and, as a defence against the intense cold, we wrapped ourselves in furs, and stayed on deck watching the scene, until the sun rose glorious from the sea, and shone upon the snow-covered sides of Fujiyama, called by the Japanese, the "Matchless mountain." It is an extinct crater, of the most perfect form, rising abruptly from a chain of very low mountains, so that it stands in unrivalled magnificence. This morning, covered with the fresh-fallen snow, there was not a spot nor a fleck to be seen upon it, from top to bottom. It is said to be the youngest moun-



FUJIYANA

tain in the world, the enormous mass having been thrown up in the course of a few days only 862 years B. C.

We reached the entrance to the Gulf of Yeddo about nine o'clock, and passed between its shores through hundreds of junks and fishing boats. I never saw anything like it before. The water was simply covered with them; and at a distance it looked as though it would be impossible to force a passage. The shores of the gulf, on each side, consist of sharp cut little hills, covered with pines and cryptomerias, and dotted with temples and villages. Every detail of the scene exactly resembled the Japanese pictures we are accustomed to see.

Yokohama is the great and principal entry port for travel across the Pacific and while not the largest city in Japan, it is really the best known and most familiar, and all parts of the Empire can be most readily reached from here.

In 1853, when Commodore Perry first saw the village across the bay and named the Cross Strand, it had but a few hundred fishermen and farmers living in thatched huts. Today it is a double city of foreigners and natives and is a principal place of commerce with other nations.

The Japanese Empire embraces a chain of islands extending from the south end of the peninsula of Kamchatka almost to the Philip-

pine Islands. In the center is the main group of islands, of which Hondo is the largest and most important. To the northeast are the Kuril Islands, which are small and barren and contain several active volcanoes. To the southeast is another chain of small islands, the Nansei group, and southwest of these is the Island of Taiwan, or Formosa. The ancient country of Korea, on a peninsula of Asia, is now a portion of the Japanese Empire and is called Chosen. Earthquakes are frequent and the houses are built low in order to withstand the strain of the shocks.

The rainfall is heavy and in the North and on the higher mountains there is much snow. The forests are luxuriant and show a great variety of trees. Much of the forest growth has been preserved because most of the surface is hilly or mountainous and the trees are not cut away on the steep slopes in order to cultivate the land, and an old law required that where one tree was cut down, two trees should be planted to take its place.

CLIMATE

The Spring and Autumn are the most desirable seasons to visit Japan. June is the wet month and July and August are very hot. The climate, in general, is mild in the islands throughout the year, because Japan is sur-

rounded by a great ocean and the warm ocean current along the shore equalizes the temperature.

NATIVE WAYS AND CUSTOMS

On the islands are about 50,000,000 people, and the habitable portion of the land is so small that the population is very dense, and to provide food for the people, the soil is cultivated in a most intensive way and only the skill and industry of the people enable them to support themselves. Even the mountain slopes are terraced and walls are built to prevent the earth from sliding.

The roads in the country are very narrow, and the people live in continuous villages with small houses, having thatched roofs, on each side of the road, and the cultivated land in the rear of the houses extends back for a long distance—every inch of ground is used and generally three crops a year are raised. Much of the ground is controlled by the government and rented to the farmers; in some cases the portion allotted to one family is as small as one-eighth of an acre.

Many varieties of rice are produced and it is the chief food of the people. The tea grown in Japan is famous, and indigo, cotton, hemp, flax, and tobacco are also raised.

Very few animals are kept on the islands, because they use large quantities of food and there is no food to spare.

The natives have no cows and do not use any milk, so that the hotels, the tourists and foreigners are furnished with frozen milk which is thawed out and called "fresh milk." Condensed milk comes from the United States and is used in large quantities.

Fish are abundant in the shallow waters around the islands, and fish, generally uncooked, is one of the chief foods. Dried fish is largely eaten by the natives.

Mulberry trees are grown to provide food for the silk-worms, which after eating the leaves for twenty-one days, hide themselves in cocoons. Late in the Spring can be seen millions of little round, grey balls, spread out on cards which are hung up in rows, and in a few days armies of little worms are wriggling about with open mouths ready for food. In the mulberry groves, girls, women, and men are picking the mulberry leaves, which, chopped up fine, form the food of the worms whose only object in life is to eat. They are fed in trays laid on shelves and eating continuously, day and night, they grow from the little specks to be from three to four inches long and can chew and eat the leaves when large and whole. When they cease to eat, they become climbers and

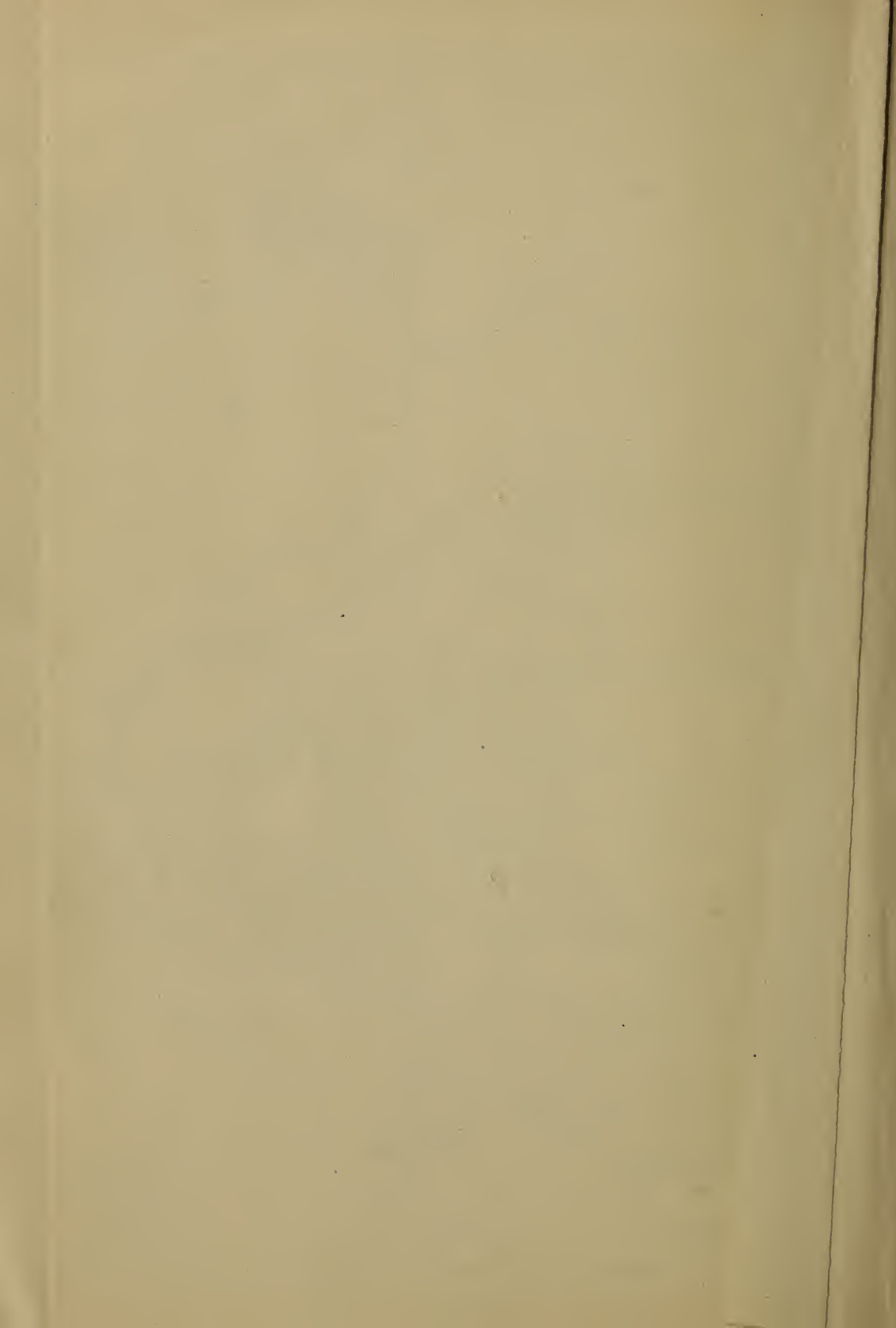
spinners, and bunches of straw are set up from the trays and the worms climb up and begin to spin long threads of silk which they wrap around themselves and soon the worm which has shortened to about an inch becomes a cocoon, looking something like a peanut and white or yellow in color.

Formerly young girls sat in rows in front of little iron kettles placed on small charcoal furnaces. The cocoons were put into hot water which softened the covering and the girls, picking out the ends of the threads, would wind them on wooden hand-reels, which came to market in shining hanks.

Now, in the silk factories, with machinery driven by steam, the work is done more quickly and in larger quantities, though women are still the chief workers. Frequently we read in our daily papers of carefully guarded special trains carrying the silk at passenger train speed to our silk factories in New Jersey and other points East; this precious product that has been brought in steamers to Seattle on the Pacific Coast. Japan supplies about thirty per cent of the total amount of silk made in the world, and more than half of all that we receive in the United States.

OCCUPATIONS

In Japan the spinning industry is becoming more and more important. Silk is manufac-



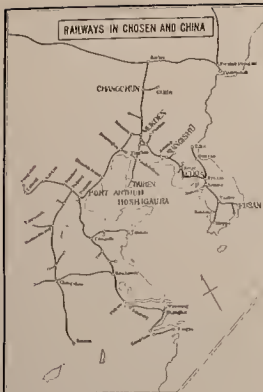
tured at Tokyo, and large cotton mills are located at Osaka. The raw cotton is imported from India and train loads are shipped from our own cotton fields in the South.

The Japanese excel all others in the art of lacquering; from the sap of a kind of sumach, they make the lac, which is a varnish. They inlay woods in beautiful patterns, and then apply the lac in numberless applications, which, when dried is given a high polish and becomes as hard as steel. For many years the Japanese have been skilled in the arts. Their fine porcelain and glassware are greatly admired and are seen in the art stores, the museums and the homes of people in Europe and America.

Iron and coal are among the important minerals of Japan, as they are establishing mills, building railroads, constructing ships, and engaging in commerce. They have large deposits of copper which is of great value, as electrical power is much used. There are more than 6,000 miles of railway in Japan; a large mileage, as the country is mountainous and has few places that are as much as seventy-five miles from the sea.

The railways in Japan are medium gauge and the principal line extends from Kobe to Kyoto. There are two fast passenger trains, daily, taking from ten to twelve hours. The cars are small and of light weight, equipped with air

RAILWAYS IN CHOSŌN AND CHINA

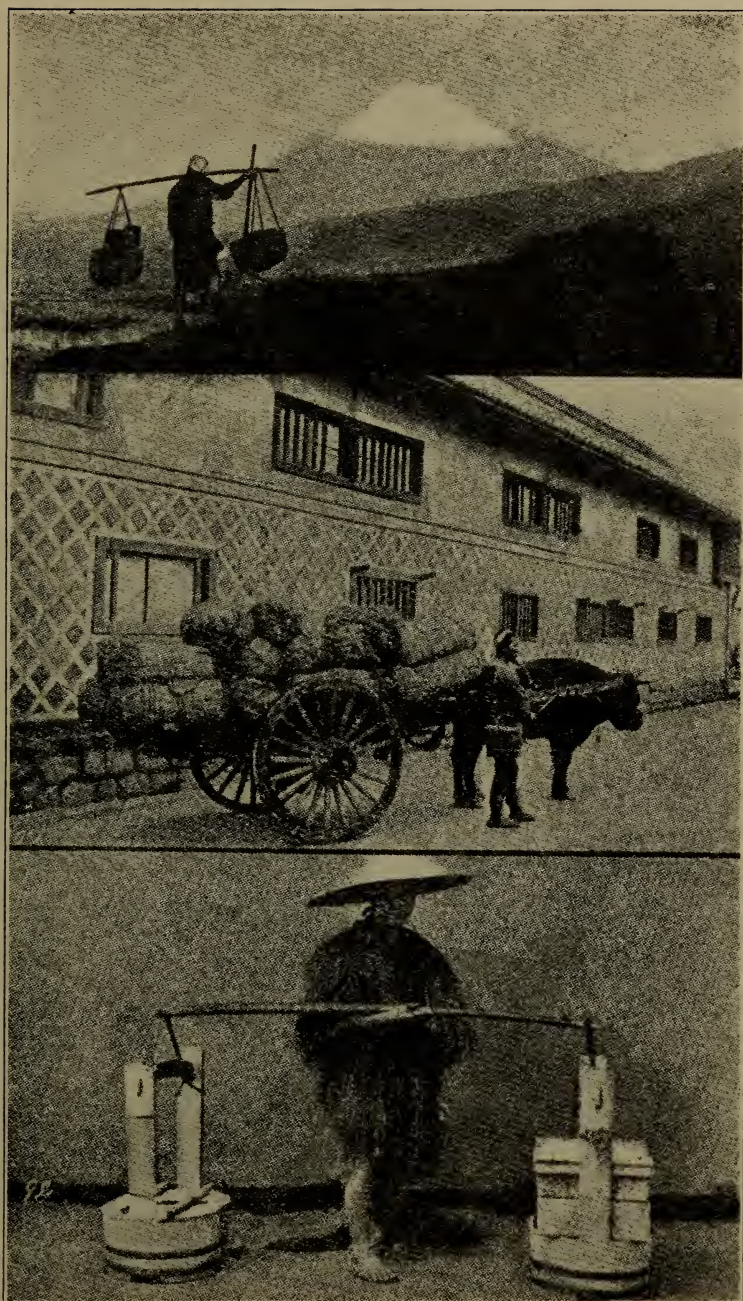


brakes, the day trains are heavily crowded and at night the sleeping cars are only furnished with curtain partitions. The cars on day trains are sometimes equipped with seats like our passenger cars, but as a rule, they are only furnished with one long narrow seat running lengthwise of the car.

At the stations along the road wooden boxes are passed to the passengers through the windows, containing a luncheon of fish, rice and pickles, together with a pot of tea. When the food is eaten, the teapot is placed in the box and put underneath the seats to be gathered up and returned. The trains are generally crowded and it is necessary to secure reservations in advance for seats on the best trains, as the tickets show the number of the seat to be occupied.

The progress of Japan during the past fifty years has been wonderful. The people are quick to learn, and readily adopt or imitate the customs and industries of other nations. They send many young men to foreign universities and engineering schools to study modern methods in the Western worlds. They also have large and well equipped universities of their own and only a few of the professors in these schools are men from other nations.

Rice is the main crop. This is generally grown in valleys, which must be irrigated and



CARRYING LOADS

have several inches of water covering the ground. The farmers plow the soft mud in the Spring, turning over the roots and making the soil level. In May the rice seed is sown in small selected beds, where it sinks out of sight, but soon the green sprouts appear and when six inches in height are transplanted and set in rows. Then the weeding and heaping up around the roots must be attended to and this is done with the naked toes of the workers who follow along rows taking care of two rows at a time. The crop is then left alone until October. Then the farmer goes out with his reaping hook, cuts the grain from the stalks, pulls the straw through iron teeth to get out the grain, pounds the husks and kernel in mortars, made of wood, and winnows the mass to blow off the chaff. Then the rice is clean and fit for eating. That which grows in the Southwest is considered the best. It is eaten three times a day, and with fish, eggs, beans, and vegetables forms the staple of native diet.

No meat is eaten by the common people. On the hillsides where the land cannot be irrigated, other crops are grown, but much of the country is too steep for the plow, so that only about one-tenth of the area can be cultivated. Tea will grow on the hillsides, and oranges and pears are also grown.

YOKOHAMA

When in Yokohama we went to dine, in real Japanese fashion, at a Japanese tea-house. The establishment was kept by a very pleasant woman, who received us at the door, and who herself removed our shoes before allowing us to step on her clean mats. This was all very well, as far as it went, but she might as well have supplied us with some substitute, for it was a bitterly cold night, and the highly polished wood passages felt very cold to our shoeless feet. The apartment we were shown into was so exact a type of a room in any Japanese house, that I may as well describe it once for all. The woodwork of the roof and the framework of the screens were all made of a handsome dark polished wood, not unlike walnut. The exterior of walls under the verandah, as well as the partitions between the other rooms, were simply wooden lattice-work screens, covered with white paper, and sliding in grooves; so that you could walk in or out at any part of the wall you chose. Doors and windows are, by this arrangement, rendered unnecessary, and do not exist. You open a little bit of your wall if you want to look out,

and a bigger bit if you want to step out. The floor was covered with several thicknesses of very fine mats, each about six feet long by three broad, deliciously soft to walk upon. All mats in Japan are of the same size, and everything connected with house-building is measured by this standard. Once you have prepared your foundations and woodwork of the dimensions of so many mats, it is the easiest thing in the world to go to a shop and buy a house, ready made, which you can set up and furnish in the scanty Japanese fashion in a couple of days.

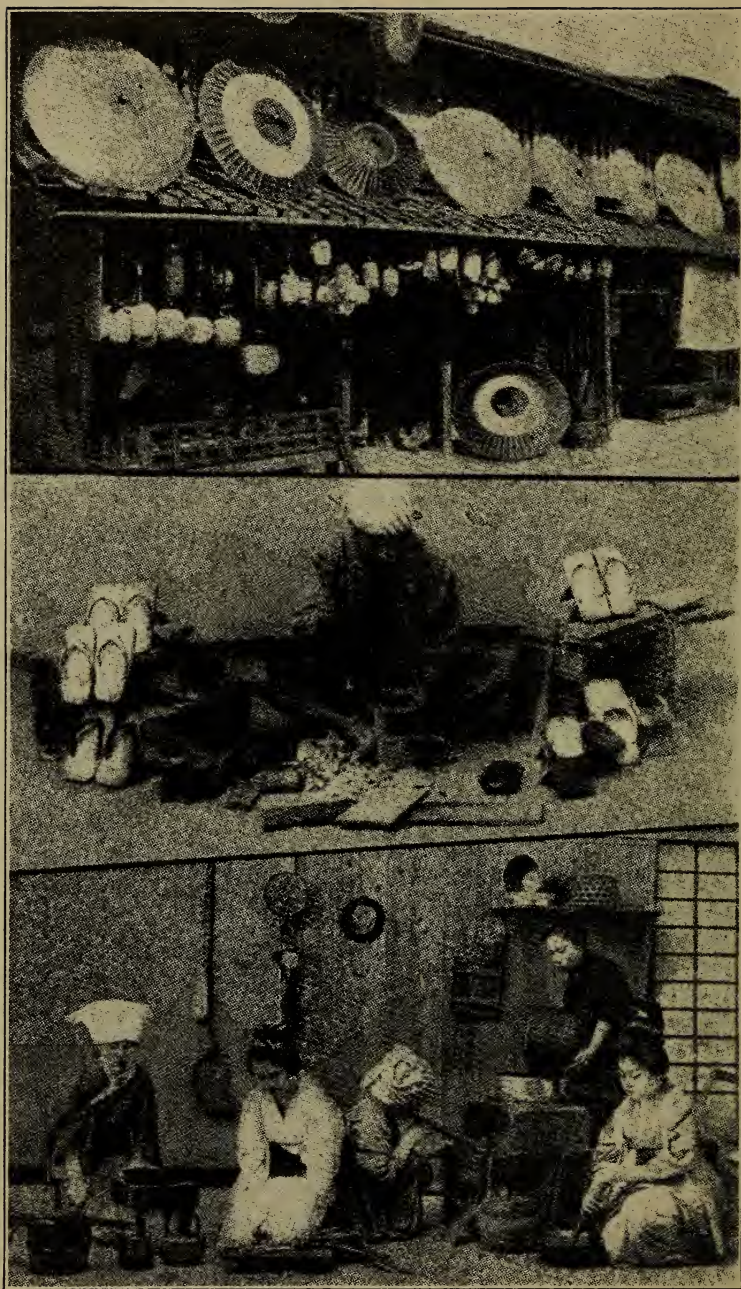
On one side of the room was a slightly raised dais, about four inches from the floor. This was the seat of honor. On it had been placed a stool, a little bronze ornament, and a china vase, with a branch of cherry-blossom and a few flag-leaves gracefully arranged. On the wall behind hung pictures, which are changed every month, according to the season of the year. There was no other furniture of any sort in the room. Four nice-looking Japanese girls brought in thick cotton quilts to sit upon, and braziers full of burning charcoal, to warm ourselves by. In the center of the group another brazier was placed, protected by a square wooden grating, and over the whole they laid a large silk eiderdown quilt, to retain the heat. This is the way in which all the rooms, even

bedrooms, are warmed in Japan, and the result is that fires are of very frequent occurrence. The brazier is kicked over by some restless or careless person, and in a moment the whole place is in a blaze.

A JAPANESE DINNER

Presently the eiderdown and brazier were removed and our dinner brought in. A little lacquer table, about six inches high, on which were arranged a pair of chop-sticks, a basin of soup, a bowl for rice, a *saki* cup, and a basin of hot water, was placed before each person, while the four Japanese maidens sat in our midst, with fires to keep the *saki* hot, and to light the tiny pipes with which they were provided, and from which they wished us to take a whiff after each dish. *Saki* is a sort of spirit, distilled from rice, always drunk hot, out of small cups.

Everything was well cooked and served, though the ingredients of some of the dishes, as will be seen from the following bill of fare, given on the following page, were rather strange to our ideas. Still they were eatable, and most of them really palatable.



GETTING DINNER. SHOPS OPEN TO STREET

MENU

Soup

Shrimps and Seaweed

Prawns, Egg Omelette, and Preserved Grapes

Fried Fish, Spinach, Young Rushes, and

Young Ginger

Raw Fish, Mustard and Cress, Horseradish

and Soy

Thick Soup, of Eggs, Fish, Mushrooms, and

Spinach. Grilled Fish

Fried Chicken and Bamboo Shoots

Turnip Tops and Root Pickles

Rice ad libitum in a large bowl

Hot Saki, Pipes and Tea.

The meal concluded with an enormous lacquer box of rice, from which all our bowls were filled, the rice being thence conveyed to our mouths by means of chop-sticks. We managed very well with these substitutes for spoons and forks, the knack of using which, to a certain extent, is soon acquired. The long intervals between the dishes were beguiled with songs, music, and dancing performed by professional singing and dancing girls. The music was somewhat harsh and monotonous; but the songs sounded harmonious, and the dancing

was graceful, though it was rather posturing than dancing, great use being made of the fan and the long trailing skirts. The girls, who were pretty, wore peculiar dresses to indicate their calling, and seemed of an entirely different stamp from the quiet, simply dressed waitresses whom we found so attentive to our wants.

After dinner we had some real Japanese tea, tasting exactly like a little hot water poured on very fragrant new-mown hay. Then, after a brief visit to the kitchen, which, though small, was beautifully clean, we received our shoes and were bowed out by our pleasant hostess and her attentive handmaidens.

The market at Yokohama is one of the sights of the place. There were large quantities of birds and game of all kinds—pheasants with tails six feet long, of a rare copper-colored variety, ducks, pigeons, small birds, hares, deer, rabbits. The market was well supplied with fish, especially cuttle-fish. They are not inviting looking, but are considered a delicacy here. A real octopus, in a basket, with its hideous body in the centre, and its eight arms, covered with suckers, arranged in the form of a star, is worth from a dollar to a dollar and a half, according to its size. I was not tempted, however, to make any purchases.

From the market we went to one or two small shops in back streets, and thence over the

bluffs, in the teeth of a bitterly cold wind, to a nursery garden, to examine the results of the Japanese art of dwarfing and distorting trees. Some of the specimens were very curious and some beautiful, but most were simply hideous. We saw tiny old gnarled fruit-trees, covered with blossom, and Scotch firs and other forest trees, eight inches high, besides diminutive ferns and creepers.

The little Japanese build lower stories and shorter doors than we do, and on a daintier scale; frequent earthquakes discourage high buildings, even for business purposes; their black-tiled or straw-thatched roofs with pagoda corners, overhang the fronts to form a sort of porch. The irregularity with which the buildings are set, no two being of the same height, gives the streets a ragged and ramshackle appearance; they are constructed without taste, symmetry, or architectural design, and paint is seldom used. Buildings are numbered in the order of time in which they are constructed; thus, number two may be a mile or more away from number one, if it is erected at this distance from the first structure.

All the shops, except a few of the better class, are open to the streets, and the whole stock of goods is on display to the passerby. Work of all sorts, sewing, making, mending, embroidering, forging, carpentering, tea-serving,

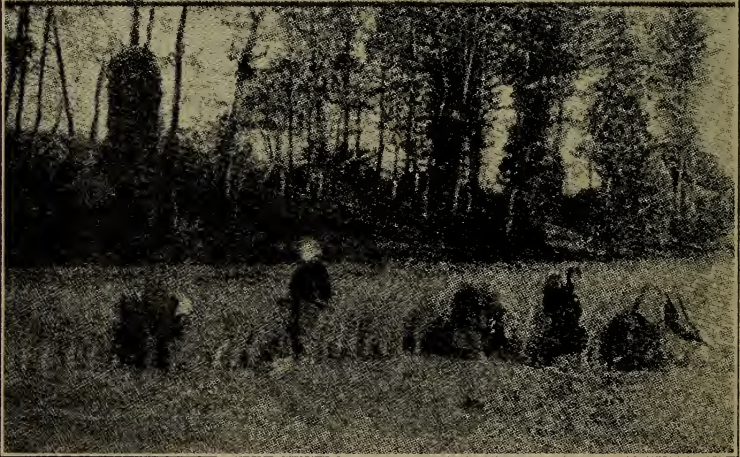
dressing children, is carried on in full view of the public; the street is the back yard, workshop, and playground. There are few sidewalks, shops are set even with the street, and without raised foundations; floors raised a few inches above and a little back from the street are neatly matted and used as counters for display of wares.

Tiny cups of tea are served to the customer, while he examines the goods; nobody is in a hurry, and tea is always ready in Japan. A low bow, the head nearly touching the matted floor, is made by the clerk as he rocks his body forward from the heels and smiles, as he replies to any question propounded, several of the polite salutations being given in return for the slightest purchase. The patience and courtesy for which the Japanese are justly proverbial seldom desert them; no matter how much time is taken, or whether purchases are made or not, the bows are as low and smiles as kindly, trade or no trade. It makes one feel mean to turn away from such treatment without parting with a few sen at least, so that frequent looking at artistic productions in the shops soon invites the tourist to a state of financial bankruptcy.

Little girls strap the babies to their backs, and their dolls on the backs of the babies they are carrying. The heavily wadded kimonos

worn in the Autumn days by nurses and children are suggestive of animated bed-comforters clogging through the streets. A constant source of entertainment for the stranger, from the moment anchor is cast to the day of departure, is the dress and undress of these little people. The men in dark blue cotton blouses with narrow bands of white sewed on in fantastic ideographs of the native language are walking signboards for tradesmen. These designs are put on the back between the shoulders, and are worn to advertise the business followed by the workmen. Pantaloons are in every state of evolution; some are gored in the back of the leg, which makes them fit as tight as the skin; others have them cut off halfway between the hips and knees; others adorn one leg, leaving the other bare, an economical arrangement, as the legs can take turns in appearing in public, thus doubling the time a wardrobe can last. Many are bare-legged, especially the riksha men, who, with their rows of wheeled chairs, wait patiently in their places to be called into service.

The kimona as generally worn is cut alike for men, women, and children; it is a long, straight, narrow garment, with wide flowing sleeves used for pockets; the collar folded back from the neck, and the skirt so lapped in front as to prevent showing the absence of undergar-



IN THE RICE PADDIES

ment, if carefully adjusted, which is not always the case; the feet are either bare, or merely protected by straw sandals held on by a strap passed from the instep and over between the great and second toes. Some wear the *taba*, a black or white digitated gaiter.

To raise the feet from the ground, a thin board set on two strips of wood about two inches high, held on the same as the sandals is used, and into these the feet are slipped. The narrowness of the kimono, and the hampering clogs cause the feet to be shuffled instead of raised; and for this reason the race is pigeon-toed and hobbling. From their habit of squatting on knees and heels the lower part of the legs are undeveloped; this in great part accounting for the short stature of the race. The variety of dress, the numerous little shops, the riksha men with their large mushroom hats bobbing up and down, and overhanging their shoulders, the "at home" appearance of the occupants of the wheeled chairs, make one's first arrival in Japan a memory picture not soon to be effaced. It is altogether different from that of any other country.

The pulling and pushing of carts by men who do the work that is done by horses in America awaken our sympathies, until it is noticed how easily and systematically everything is done. In Yokohama there are over twenty thousand

men licensed to run jinrikishas, and about as many to run carts. If a horse or bullock is used to a cart, the man walks in front leading the animal by a rope, seldom using lines, and never allowing the beast to pull him, no matter if the cart is empty, or what the distance is to be traveled. Light loads are carried in baskets or tubs suspended on a bamboo pole balanced on the shoulders.

At night the narrow streets are lighted by paper or glass lanterns hanging out from the low fronts of the numerous shops, each marked with ideographs; rikshas running hither and thither, with paper lanterns fastened to the shafts and bobbing like fireflies, make at first a weird and uncanny impression. Riding in the evening through the large cities soon becomes one of the most enjoyable sources of entertainment for the stranger. In Tokyo electricity is largely used for street lighting. Small dealers in every conceivable article of merchandise sit on the outer edge of the sidewalks or in rows on the street, each having a tiny coal-oil lamp with which to illuminate his stock. With night-fall come thousands of these dealers, who range themselves in their accustomed places, waiting for trade until late.

Everybody is good natured; there is no boisterousness, drunkenness, unseemly crowding, or discourtesy. The throngs on the streets in



IN A JINRIKISHA, NAGOYA, JAPAN

a Japanese city, night or day, are the quietest and best behaved to be found the world over. If street scenes are picturesque under a warm sunlight on a clear day, they are still more so on a rainy day, the thousands of yellow, oil-paper-many-rattaned umbrellas bobbing in and out among the black hoods of the jinrikishas that are pulled up to cover the occupants; the strips of floor matting hanging from the shoulders of the poorer people, for want of something better, the straw coats worn by many, give a distinctive, bedraggled appearance to a rainy day, and emphasize the apparent poverty of the masses. The streets are a sea of mud and slush, through which the throngs splash, clog, and shuffle, there being nothing nastier than the streets of a Japanese city on a rainy day.

In Tokyo interest centers in the fine old monastery grounds of Sheba, that are now a public park. Here are the mortuary tombs of the Shoguns under the shadows of the century old pines and towering cryptomeria. Rows of stone votive lanterns line the avenues inside the yard, there being many hundreds of them, moss-grown and time-eaten. The temple gates and edifices are marvels of wood carving and lacquer, and have been splendid in color and gilding, but now are dust-covered and neglected. Priests with shaven heads sit within, crooning

prayers, serving tea, or playing a mournful minor tune on a small flute. Worshipers come, clap their hands three times, bow, drop a few sen on the matted floor, and in this way satisfy the worshipful spirit that is in every breast.

We climb flights of moss-grown, granite steps, into a park deep with shadow and gloom to visit the tomb of a son of the Shogun, surrounded with numerous stone lanterns that sit in rows in all these temple grounds. We jump into our "rikshas" and coolies speed away two miles through narrow, crooked streets, into a broad avenue that leads into Yueno Park, with its wide avenues, giant trees, half-hidden temples, rows of lanterns, its moss-grown, neglected tombs, its lotus pond, and annual chrysanthemum display. Here are life-sized figures of men and women, whole groups of actors in a play, dressed in blooming chrysanthemums.

Chrysanthemums adorn every shop, house, table; and people carry them in great bunches through the fete season, even confections being made to represent the flower. The cherry-blooming season is the greatest floral fete celebrated by Japanese; trees are kept for their blossoms alone, the fruit not being edible; trees from one to three hundred years old are shown in some gardens, and are objects of reverence, and almost worship. The wisteria is another favorite flower, and is reproduced in the fine

embroideries on kimonos, wall pieces, screens and fans. (See picture "In a Jinrikisha", page 41.)

The American should leave home so as to arrive early in September. This will allow two months in which to travel over the country at a time to avoid the extreme heat, and get away before the damp, cold season sets in. Sufficient English is spoken along the usual routes of travel to enable tourists to get along without great annoyance. Uniformed porters wait upon the traveling public, at the depots, under a good system, and there are fair hotels in the leading cities, kept by Americans or Europeans. Names of all stations are given in both Japanese and English, thus greatly aiding the foreign traveler unacquainted with the Japanese language. Newsboys sell papers, confections, and boxes of rice at the depots, and all first-class cars have a tea-kettle, tea-pot, and cups furnished with drawings of tea all placed on a low table in the center of the car and furnished free for the comfort of the guest in lieu of water, as in our country. Hot water is sold at stations.

Money is on the decimal system, making it easy to exchange from American into Japanese. A yen is their dollar, and is equivalent to fifty cents in U. S. money. One hundred sen make one yen, and ten rin make one sen. Thus one of the chief annoyances of foreign travel is re-

duced to a minimum when traveling in Japan.

The populace swarms at country stations to see the trains pass by; at one I took a snapshot of the crowd, among which there were twenty-nine women and girls with babies strapped to their backs. Railway employees are uniformly courteous, and make the way of the tourist as pleasant as possible. English is rapidly becoming the commercial language of Japan, and each year it becomes easier for the American to travel within her borders. The total expense of travel is about the same as first class in America. The same clothing worn in Autumn days at home is suitable for September, October, and early November in Japan. Fifty years ago there was not a mile of railway nor a smokestack in all Japan; now her iron bands the land, and smoke belches forth from her forest stacks in every city, Osaka alone having over three hundred great factories.

The small, level valleys, hemmed in by mountain ranges jutting to the sea are most carefully cultivated. The fields are cut into small, irregular beds, from one to three rods in extent, and divided by low, irrigating dykes, the tops of which are used for paths between patches; there are no fences, and a dumb brute is seldom seen. Rice paddies are mixed up with beds of vegetables, buckwheat, tea, and mulberry groves, every foot of ground being util-

ized. The carefully cultivated valleys of Japan are among the most beautiful agricultural scenes of the world. From early morn until late at night the heads of men and women can be seen bobbing up and down in the fields, as they wade in the rice paddies, for no one seems to be idle and lazy in Japan. Mothers strap their babies to their backs while they wash, cook, or work in the fields, and seem unconscious of their additional burden. Occasionally a horse or bullock is used to break the ground, but usually this is done by a long mattock, after which the ground is pulverized by a square wooden frame set with iron teeth in the bottom cleat and swung back and forth by a man to break the heavy clogs. Farming implements are of the most primitive kind.

There is a succession of crops, four a year being raised, rice being the staple, but in the southern part sugar cane, tea, inferior cotton, bananas, oranges, persimmons, dispute its supremacy. The gardens occupy terrace above terrace on the mountain-sides, and make a pretty agricultural picture, especially when the women tea-pickers, with white kerchiefs tied over their heads, with babies in bright colored kimonas tied on their backs, are at work in these deep green fields. The people live in communities; the houses are made of bamboo thatched with straw or leaves, and are set down

closely together without any idea of order, the back door of one against the front door of the other. The ridge poles of these shacks are often decorated with wide beds of blooming iris.

Land is owned in small tracts, largely by those who till it. It is sold in tracts six feet square, instead of acres as with us. No alien can hold land in Japan, except for consular purposes. Farm hands get about fifty dollars per year for services that extend from sunup to sundown, the people being proverbially early risers. The sweet, musical lisplings of the little children we pass on the roadways call to us "Ohio" which means not "good" but "early" morning. Swarms of children line the roadways in the morning on their way to school, for Japan compels all her children to attend school until fourteen years of age.

Musical memories that will ever remain with those who have visited Japan are the reverberations of temple bells. All bells are hung low from great beams, usually under pagoda roofs; they are rung by means of heavy, swinging, round logs or beams suspended from the roofs by chains, and moved like battering-rams. One stroke of the bell sends forth a peal of musical thunder, deep, rich, sweet, that rolls away and away to the wooded hills, that send back the waves in echoes again and again, each reverberation growing sweeter and sweeter un-

til it dies away, the single stroke continuing to sound for at least twelve minutes.

At Kyoto we were wakened every morning at sunrise by the prayerful cadences of the mighty bell suspended in the grounds of the great Jodo temple in Chion-in, just at the entrance of the park of the Yaama hotel, from the windows of which we could see the monster musician of the morning air as it called the vast population to remember their gods. This bell was cast in 1633. It weighs seventy-four tons, and requires twenty or thirty men to ring it with its full power. The bell of the Diabutzu temple in Kyoto is next in size, and weighs sixty-three tons, and is the one oftenest heard. In this temple is another bronze Buddha, larger than the one at Kamakura.

The most revered bell of all Japan is in the great temple park at Nara, near the temple Todaiji. It weighs thirty-seven tons, and was cast in 733. Visitors may sound it once by the payment of one cent. Another huge bronze Buddha sits in this temple. There are five hundred acres in this ancient park at Nara, shaded with stately cryptomeria, that keep watch over numerous temples that are rich in carvings, lacquer work, and votive lanterns. Hundreds of sacred deer roam in this park, and follow visitors for the little cakes that are sold for the purpose of feeding them.

THE ISLAND OF INOSHIMA

We drove quickly through the town, past the station, along the Tokaido, or imperial road, running from one end of the Island to the other. The houses are one story high, and their walls are made of the screens I have already described. These screens were all thrown back, to admit the morning air which was cold. Consequently we could see all that was going on within, in the sitting-room in front, and even in the bedrooms and kitchen. At the back of the house there was invariably a little garden to be seen, with a miniature rockery, a tree, and a lake; possibly also a bridge and a temple. Even in the gardens of the poorest houses an attempt is made to have a lake or bridge.

Much of the house-work is done in the open air; so a very good idea is obtained of how the Coolies do their work, and dress themselves and their children.

The hair dressing of the women and girls is very elaborate and takes much time to perfect it. That is the reason they are so careful to keep the hair looking nicely, by sleeping on the wooden pillows, and in these modern days they use a rubber cushion and lean their faces

against it, as they sleep. Both men and women sleep this way on the trains.

After stopping twice on the road, to drink the inevitable tea, we changed from our carriage to *jinrikishas*, each drawn and pushed by four strong men, bowling along at a merry pace. The sun was very warm in the sheltered valleys, and the abundance of evergreens of all kinds quite deluded one into the belief that it was summer time, especially as camellias grew like forest trees, covered with red and white bloom, amidst a dense tangle of bamboos and half-hardy palms. There were many strange things upside down to be seen on either hand—horses and cows with bells on their tails instead of on their necks, the quadrupeds well clothed, their masters without a scrap of covering—tailors sewing from them instead of toward them, a carpenter reversing the action of his saw and plane. It looked just as if they had originally learned the various processes in “Alice’s Looking-glass World” in some former stage of their existence.

In less than an hour we reached the narrow strip of land which at low water connects the island or peninsula of Inoshima with the mainland. The isthmus was covered with natives gathering shells and seaweed, casting their nets, and pushing off or dragging up their boats;

whilst an island rose fresh and green from the sea, with a background of snowy mountains, stretching across the bay above which Fujiyama towered grandly. This name signifies "not two, but one mountain," the Japanese thinking it impossible that there can be another like it in the world. The lovely little island is called Inoshima. It is conical in shape covered with evergreens and Buddhist temples; also a few small fishing villages are scattered on its shores. We walked right across it in about an hour; so you may imagine it is not very large.



鳥見原

江島全景

Inoshima by a Japanese Artist.

The sea teems with curiously shaped fish and beautiful shells. The staple food of the inhabitants seems to be those lovely "Venus's ears"

as they are called—a flattish univalve, about as big as your hand, with a row of holes along the edge, and a lining of brilliant black mother-of-pearl. These were lying about in heaps mixed with white mother-of-pearl shells, as big as your two fists, and shaped like a snail-shell.

Our *jinrikisha* men deposited us at the bottom of the main street of the principal village, to enter which we passed through a simple square arch of a temple. The street was steep and dirty, and consisted principally of shell-fish and seaweed shops.

An old priest took us in hand, and, providing us with stout sticks, marched us up to the top of the hill to see various temples, and splendid views. The camellias and evergreens on the hillside made a lovely framework for each little picture, as we turned and twisted along the narrow path. I know not how many steps on the other side of the island had to be descended before the sea-beach was reached. Here is a cavern stretching 500 feet straight below high-water mark, with a shrine to Benton Sama, the Lucina of Japan. Having been provided with candles, we proceeded a few hundred feet through another cave, running at right angles to the first.

As it would have been a long steep walk back, and I was very tired, we called to one of the

numerous fishing boats nearby the shore, and were quickly conveyed round to our original starting place. Before we said goodbye, one of the old priests implored us to be allowed to dive into the water for a half-a-dollar. His request was complied with, and he caught the coin most successfully.

We lunched at a tea-house, our meal consisting of fish of all kinds, deliciously cooked, and served, fresh from the fire.

THE GREAT BUDDHA

Everybody takes a day out from Yokohama to pay a visit to Kamakura, a mean hamlet of little thatched homes with grass or iris with purple flowers growing on the roofs. This is all that remains of the ancient seat of Yoritomo's capital city of over one million souls. Frogs croak and fishermen lounge where prayers were wont to be uttered in numerous and stately temples before the conflagration of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Here sits the colossal bronze image of the great Buddha on a bronze lotus-leaf in the grounds of an ancient fane. It was cast in 1252 A. D., to carry out the pious desire of fulfilling the dying injunction of a Japanese woman.

It was once under cover of a monastery, which has been swept away by earthquake and tidal wave. Notwithstanding the ravages of time and the fury of the elements, it is in a state of excellent preservation. No matter how many pictures one has seen of this, he is entranced with its mystic charm when in its presence.

Its repose, its dignity, its child-like gentleness, typify all that is tender and beautiful in the soul of Japan that has produced it. Its great bronze eyes seem to follow us all about, and if danger should confront us when in its presence, we would involuntarily rush into its broad arms for protection. It is about fifty feet in height; ninety-eight feet in circumference; the length of the face is eight and a half feet, of the eye four feet, of the ear six and one-half feet, and of the nose three feet, and eight inches. The breadth of the mouth is three feet, two and one-half inches; the length from knee to knee thirty-six feet, and the circumference of the thumb three feet.

You can enter into the statue through a small orifice in one side of the bronze lotus-blossom seat. Inside is a little shrine of Kwannon, the goddess of pity and mercy, the goddess with a thousand hands and a thousand faces. One can ascend by a ladder into the shoulders of the image, and from small windows get a glimpse

of meadow, grove, and sea surrounding it. We pass through the temple gate that always guards the entrance to temple grounds, and ascend a flight of broad stone steps, and stop before the open door of a Shinto temple; the only furnishings are a large square box for receiving contributions of rice or money, a chain or cord suspended from a cluster of small bells, and a round mirror that is supposed to reflect the soul. Worshippers drop their contributions for the benefit of the clean-shaven, yellow-robed Buddhist or white-robed Shinto priests. This temple site is in a grove of ancient cedars and pines mixed with the graceful bamboo and trees of tropical verdure and beauty.

IN NIKKO

Nikko is one of the most interesting places in Japan and we made several visits here. It is famous for its temples, its magnificent groves of cryptomeria, and its avenue of twenty-five miles, lined on either side with these immense trees, leading into the grounds and surrounding the most famous temples in all Japan. Temple-builders selected the most romantic spots on



The Kegon Falls, Nikko.

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mountains or hillsides for their places of worship, where they now sit under the dense shade of century-old trees.

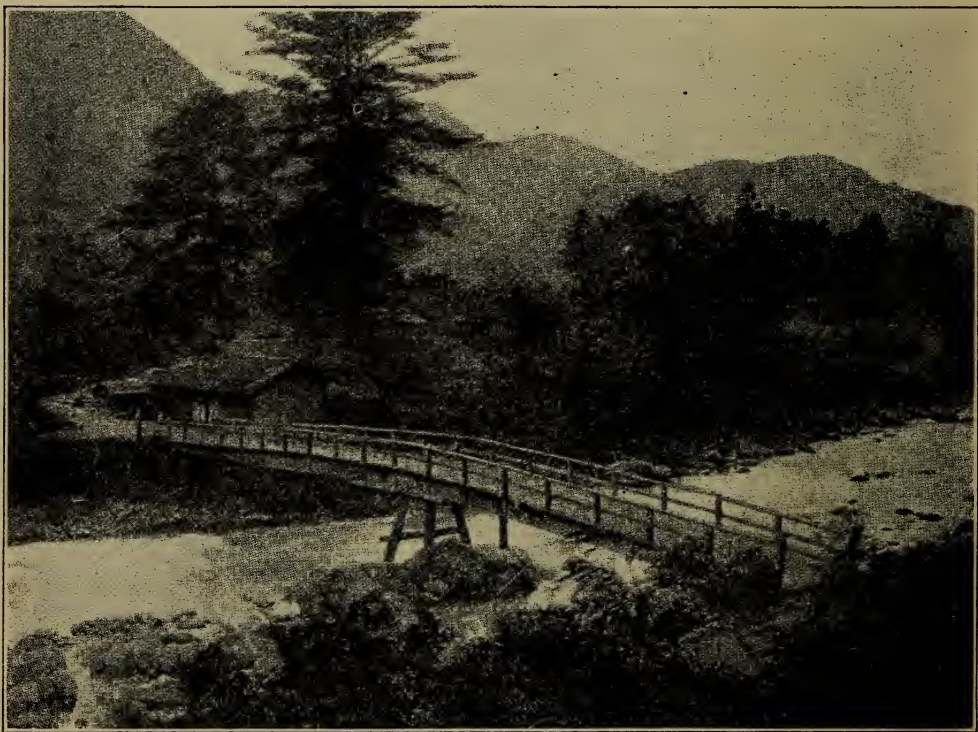
We ascend a flight of wide, moss-grown stone steps, and stop inside the Shinto gateway to buy a few beans to feed the sacred pony that is in a comfortable stall at the entrance. He gulps them down like any other pony, but we have parted with a few *rin*, so we pass on, only to be halted to witness the sacred priestesses dance for the amusement of the spirit of Ieyasu, whose body lies in these shady temple grounds.

The priestess drapes herself in red or white with her hair hanging down her back. Her dance consists in stepping back and forth on the raised platform and in raising the toes of her bare feet in time with the fan that she holds in one hand and the bunch of tinkling bells in the other.

There is no profanity in the Japanese language, and there is no Sunday or day of rest in their religion.

It was a charming ride in a sedan chair to Chuzanzi, a lake surrounded by high mountains. It was far more delightful for me than for the six coolies that tugged and perspired with their load as they picked their way over the steep and rugged pathway. About twenty years ago, an earthquake had moved the end of a great

mountain, one mile across and three thousand feet high, down the valley, through the deep gorge of a wild mountain stream, the course of which was changed by the flood that carried everything before it as it tore its way past Nikko, twelve miles distant. Here it swept away the famous Red Lacquer Bridge, so sacred that none but the Mikado or royal prince was permitted to cross it.



THE RED LACQUER BRIDGE

This bridge has been rebuilt.

The earthquake did other serious damage, and was so powerful in its might of destruction that the people who heard the thundering noise thought the world had come to an end. Our way skirted the precipice and yawning chasm made by this fearful throe of nature. The coolies carried us along the broken way now on a narrow path with overhanging rocks that looked as if the weight of a bird might send them crashing down upon us, now crossing the raging stream on stepping-stones or huge boulders or on temporary bamboo bridges that threatened to move down stream with us while on them. If going up was hazardous, coming down was more so. Our coolies trotted, ran and chattered all along the way.

Nearing Nikko they stopped to allow us to count the row of stone Buddhas that stood on the opposite side of the river bank, so alike and close together that no two people can count them and make the same number; first I made three hundred, then four or more hundred, although many had been swept down the stream at the time of the earthquake. This is an interesting puzzle in gods. Immense sums of money have been spent in Japan in carving stone votive lanterns and Buddhas, and in erecting rich temples in lacquer carving and gold and silver ornamentation.

In all the legends of Japan, and there are many, there is much sweetness, reverence, and polite tenderness, which speak charmingly for the "bushedo," or soul of Japan.

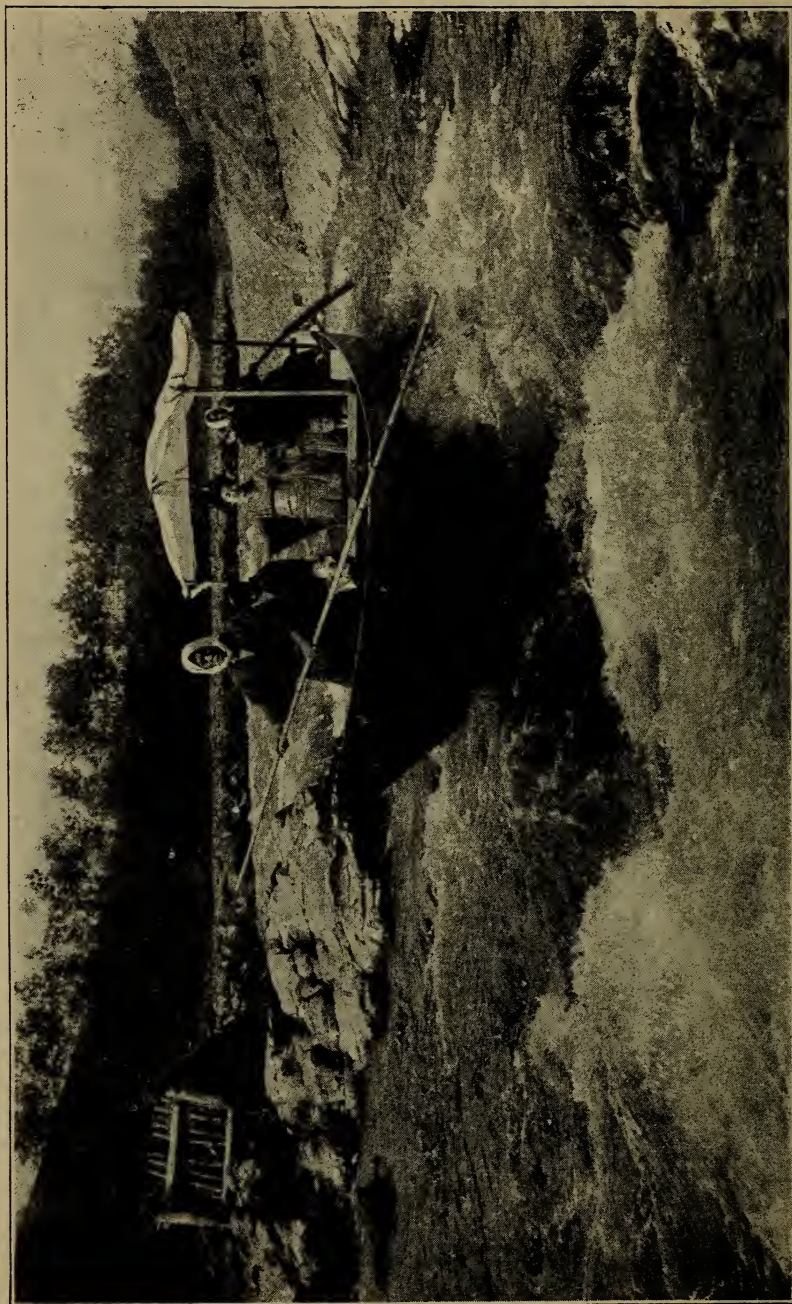


HISTORY

In the Foreword, reference is made to recent legislation affecting the rights of the Japanese to admission to the United States and to the ownership of land. It is interesting to note that foreigners are not allowed to own land in Japan except for consular residences. In the Introduction are quotations from different narratives and at a time when non-intercourse prevailed in Japan, and when only the Dutch were allowed the privilege of a yearly voyage to Japan.

The relations between the United States and Japan are unusual in the fact that the establishing of a friendly feeling between the two nations resulted in the opening up of Japan to intercourse with other nations.

The settlement of the States of California and Oregon on the Pacific Coast emphasized the importance of commercial intercourse with Japan, because of the intimate relations which must soon exist between the Coast and the East Indies.



MIYANOSHITA RAPIDS—HOZU RIVER

An expedition was fitted out by the United States, which sailed in November, 1852, carrying a letter from the President to the Emperor of Japan, asking for a treaty of friendship and commerce between the two nations. For this expedition seven ships-of-war were employed under command of Commodore M. C. Perry, a brother of the victor on Lake Erie. The letter which he carried was drafted by Daniel Webster before his death, but countersigned by Edward Everett, his successor in office.

Perry carried many useful implements and inventions as presents, to the Japanese government, including a small railway and equipments, telegraph, etc. He was to approach the government in the most friendly manner; to use no violence unless attacked; but if attacked, to let the Japanese feel the full weight of his power. Perry delivered his letter and waited for some months without being permitted to go ashore. In the interval, he visited and surveyed the Loo Choo Islands. He finally effected a landing and commenced negotiations and a treaty was made that ports should be thrown open to American colonists to a limited extent in different Japanese islands; that steamers should be furnished with supplies of coal, and that American sailors shipwrecked should receive hospitable treatment.

Subsequently, a peculiar construction of the treaty on the part of the Japanese authorities relating to the permanent residence of Americans there threatened a disturbance of the agreeable relations which had been established. This matter was adjusted, and in 1860 the first embassy from Japan visited the United States with an imposing array of Japanese officials.

There was a great opposition in the empire to this intercourse with "the barbarians" and civil war ensued. An immediate change marked public opinion in Japan, and from that time the intimate relations, social and commercial, between the United States and Japan have constantly increased.

Early in 1872 the government of Japan sent another embassy to the United States, charged to inquire about the renewal of former treaties. This embassy consisted of twenty-one persons, comprising the heads of several departments of the Japanese government and their secretaries. Among them was an imperial prince—Mori—who came to represent Japan at Washington as *charge d'affaires* and also twelve students. This mission arrived in Washington early in March and Mori had the honor of being the first minister ever sent by the Japanese government to reside in a foreign country.

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